

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Anchorage****Project Title:**

# Anchorage - Northwood Elementary School New Program Textbooks and Teaching Materials

**State Funding Requested: \$ 25,000****House District: 25 - M**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

Northwood Elementary School requests one time funding for textbooks & teaching materials for a program to improve the educational achievement of low income students.

**Funding Plan:****Total Cost of Project: \$25,000**Funding SecuredOther Pending RequestsAnticipated Future Need*Amount FY**Amount FY**Amount FY*

There is no other funding needed

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

This project is an education priority. Northwood Elementary is slated to become Anchorage's next "ABC School". Implementation of this program requires new teaching materials, as well as staff training in the unique math and phonics teaching method ABC schools utilize. Becoming an ABC school means the current student population of 250 is projected to grow to 400 in the next two years. These funds will ensure that students have adequate materials and teachers have proper training - which can only lead to success.

**Project Timeline:**

Expenditures will occur during the 2008-09 school year.

**Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

Anchorage School District

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Contact Name: Greg Balcao, Principal, Northwood Elementary School

Phone Number: (907) 742-6800

Address: 4807 Northwood Dr., Anchorage, AK 99517

Email: balcao\_gregory@asdk12.org

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No

## **NORTHWOOD ELEMENTARY**



**4807 Northwood Drive, Anchorage, Alaska 99517  
(907) 742-6800, FAX (907) 742-6822**

February 29, 2008

Re: Capital Requests

Dear Senator Hollis French and Representatives Doogan and Holmes,

Northwood Elementary recently submitted a legislative grant application in the amount of \$25,000. The reason for this request is to help Northwood grow from its present size of 250 students to a projected size of 400 students in two years. This grant would help meet a fundamental educational need: literature and math textbooks for our students as well as professional development for our staff. When students have adequate materials with which to learn and teachers have the proper training with which to teach, excellence is inevitably the result.

This request comes as the result of a six month long public process in which Northwood was unanimously granted approval by the Anchorage School District School Board to become the next ABC school. During this time, Northwood has gone to great lengths to insure that this new program would be in the best interests of everyone involved. Staff, students, parents, and the surrounding community have taken part in steering committees, forums, discussions, and surveys. Our learning community has also unanimously embraced the ABC model; we believe that academic achievement will increase and that other critical school outcomes will result as well. These include: improved parental involvement, an emphasis on structured homework, and students having leadership roles within the school environment. From a fiscal perspective, this move will result in a more fully actualized use of our building facilities.

The acquisition of math and literature textbooks (approximately \$23,000 for Literature and Math textbooks for 150 students) will play a large role in improving student achievement. We will also include Spalding Phonics training and Saxon Math training as part of the professional development for improving instructional practice and bringing greater uniformity of practice within the building. We have found that the greater fidelity of teacher practice in the building, the greater student success reflected in state test scores. Beyond state test scores, it is our belief that successful students are successful citizens and successful citizens are one sign of a healthy community.

Sincerely,

Greg Balcao, Northwood Elementary Principal

